

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/623,051

Confirmation No.: 3961

Applicant(s):

GUNTHER MICHAEL, ET AL.

Filed:

JULY 18, 2003

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Examiner:

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Title:

HYDROPHOBIC SILICA

Docket No.:

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25461

MAIL STOP NONFEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sirs:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Before the first Official Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 9, 2004.

Susan J. Revell

PTO/SB/21 (08-03) Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. **Application Number** 10/623,051 TRANSMITTAL Filing Date 07/18/2003 **FORM GUNTHER MICHAEL** First Named Inventor (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) 1714 Art Unit **Examiner Name** To Be Assigned Total Number of Pages in This Submission Attorney Docket Number 032301.0901 ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Group Appeal Communication to Board of Fee Attached Licensing-related Papers Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group Petition Amendment / Reply (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Status Letter Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Terminal Disclaimer Other Enclosure(s) Extension of Time Request (please identify below): Attachment: "Schriftenreihe Request for Refund Pigmente Nr. 11";Return Receipt Express Abandonment Request **Postcard** CD, Number of CD(s) Information Disclosure Statement Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531 Individual name Signature Date March 9, 2004 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal

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Signature Susan (Verell

Date March 9, 2004

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.